FOLDER#2

3482 (U-66838) (U-065)

Moab District
P. O. Box 970
Moab, Utah 84532

JAN 07 1991

JAN 3 1991

Jay Marshall, Chief Engineer Genwal Coal Company P. O. Box 1201 Huntington, Utah 84528

OIL, GAS & MINING

RE: Proposed Modification To The Mine Design For Underground Right-of-Way (R-O-W) No. U-66838

Dear Mr. Marshall:

On December 11, 1990 Genwal submitted a proposal to make minor changes to the mine design of their underground R-O-W through Federal coal. This R-O-W was granted to provide access from Genwal's existing operation on Federal coal leases to their State coal leases.

The rationale for the changes is that there were inconsistencies and deficiencies in the original submission. Furthermore, adverse geologic conditions recently encountered during development of the entries have also prompted some proposed changes.

In the original submission, Genwal states that pillar dimensions were inconsistent between the narrative (80 by 160 foot centers) and the underground projection map (80 by 140 foot centers). At this time Genwal has proposed 120 foot pillar lengths that would vary between 100 and 140 feet depending on varying geologic conditions such as depth of cover and coal thickness.

Deficiencies in the original R-O-W application include car switch-outs and a battery charging station in the barrier. Genwal states that car switch-outs are necessary at each intersection to allow haulage units to switch out closer to the miner. These switch-outs consist of cuts in the barrier 40 feet deep by 20 feet wide. Also, the battery haulage used by Genwal requires a battery charging station cut in the barrier every 1,500 to 2,000 feet.

Two crosscuts into the R-O-W, a sand roll was encountered. This geologic condition was verified by our mine inspector and Genwal was given verbal permission to drop the number 6 entry for one crosscut. Genwal anticipates encountering additional sand rolls in the development of the R-O-W and has requested authorization to make similar minor entry adjustments as necessary.

Our review of all available data in the area did not reveal a wide range of geologic conditions that would warrant varying pillar sizes. Depth of overburden averages 1500 feet and gradually ranges only about 400 feet from north to south across the width of the R-O-W. We also do not have any information that indicates that coal thickness changes significantly across the R-O-W. Therefore, until additional information is submitted that would justify varying the pillar sizes, Genwal must maintain 120 foot long pillars across the R-O-W unless authorized otherwise.

The necessity for car switch-outs and battery charging stations is supported by our experience with Genwal's operation. These additions to the mine design of the R-0-W are accordingly approved as proposed.

Finally, because Genwal has provided evidence that indicates the occurrence of additional sand rolls along the R-O-W, minor adjustments to the entries are authorized for this situation. This approval is based however on Genwal promptly notifying the Price Coal Office when these conditions are encountered.

These approved changes (see attached map) are based on a determination that they are in conformance with the Mineral Leasing Act of 1920, as amended, the 43 CFR 3480 regulations, the terms and conditions of the R-O-W, and maximum economic recovery of Federal coal.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact James L. Ward of the Price Coal Office at (801) 637-4584.

Sincerely yours,

/S/ WILLIAM C. STRINGER

Assistant District Manager Mineral Resources

Attachments As Stated

cc:

U-065c (w/Attach.)
U-921 (w/Attach.)
Utah Division of Oil, Gas, and Mining (w/o Attach.)

bcc:

B. Northrup (w/Attach.)

BNorthrup:caf:1/2/91 Wang #2875f

December 11, 1990

Mr. Jim Ward Bureau of Land Management 900 North 700 East Price, Utah 84501

MINOR MODIFICATION TO MINE	PLAN
Recommended By: Mining Engineer	<u>1/2/91</u> Date
Sut Norther Chief Solid, Minerals	1/2/91 Date

RE: UNDERGROUND ACCESS SPECIAL-USE PERMIT

Dear Jim:

As required by our Underground Access Special-Use Permit, I am writing to inform you of the need to make some minor changes to the permit.

The original Mine Reclamation Plan (MRP) and Special-Use Permit included an underground projection map. This map showed the Right-Of Way access being driven on 140 by 80 foot centers. The verbiage in the MRP stated 140 foot pillars which would result in 160 by 80 foot centers. These inconsistencies need to be clarified.

Ideal pillar dimensions are a function of the following parameters: pillar strength, vertical stress, height of the coal seam, extraction ratio and production considerations. Due to the changing conditions, the 140 foot pillar referred to in the MRP and the 120 foot pillar shown on the projection map as well as the 100 foot pillar now being used are all appropriately sized. We anticipate pillar dimensions to vary between 100 and 140 feet within in the Right-Of Way.

It is in the best interest of Genwal Coal Company and the Forest Service to expedite the crossing of the ROW as quickly as possible and to do it in a way that provides stability for future access to unleased Federal Coal.

A couple of items were inadvertently left off the original projection map for the Right-Of Way. The battery haulage used by Genwal requires a battery

charging station to be cut every 1,500 to 2,000 feet. Forty foot deep by 20 feet wide cuts into the barrier are needed at each intersection to allow haulage units to switch-out closer to the miner.

A sand roll was encountered two crosscuts into the Right-Of Way. This roll required that Genwal dropped the number six entry for one cross cut. Unexpected geologic conditions which may be encountered through out the Right-Of Way could require such changes in our mine projections at any time.

A new projection map showing pillars on 120 foot centers, car switch-outs, and the battery charging stations is included for your review.

If you have any questions please call me at 687-9813.

Sincerely:

R. Jay Marshall P.E. Chief Engineer

c.c. Allen Childs George Morris File



